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2292 7590 03/20/2006

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| EXAMINER |
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HOFFBERG, ROBERT JOSEPH

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| ART UNIT | PAPER NUMBER |
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2835

DATE MAILED: 03/20/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Detailed Action

Drawings

1. The drawings are objected to under 37 CFR 1.83(a) because they fail to show #13b (page 5, line 15) as described in the specification. Any structural detail that is essential for a proper understanding of the disclosed invention should be shown in the drawing. MPEP § 608.02(d). Corrected drawing sheets in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(d) are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. Any amended replacement drawing sheet should include all of the figures appearing on the immediate prior version of the sheet, even if only one figure is being amended. The figure or figure number of an amended drawing should not be labeled as "amended." If a drawing figure is to be canceled, the appropriate figure must be removed from the replacement sheet, and where necessary, the remaining figures must be renumbered and appropriate changes made to the brief description of the several views of the drawings for consistency. Additional replacement sheets may be necessary to show the renumbering of the remaining figures. Each drawing sheet submitted after the filing date of an application must be labeled in the top margin as either "Replacement Sheet" or "New Sheet" pursuant to 37 CFR 1.121(d). If the changes are not accepted by the examiner, the applicant will be notified and informed of any required corrective action in the next Office action. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

Specification

2. The disclosure is objected to because of the following informalities: #18 has inconsistent terminology "striking zone" (claim 4 and page 4, lines 14-15) and "striking surface" (page 4, line 16).

Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

4. Claims 1-2 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Takano (US 4,259,557).

With respect to Claim 1, Takano teaches a silver contact connection structure for conductive blades comprising a conductive blade (Fig. 7, #5) and a fastening section (Fig. 7, #5 near #4) extended from the surface of the conductive blades for holding a silver (Col. 6, line 17) contact (Fig. 7, #4), the fastening section being a hole (Fig. 18, #6) through both sides.

With respect to Claim 2, Takano further teaches the fastening section is non-circular (Abstract, line 1, rectangular) along any horizontal cross section.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

5. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

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(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

6. Claim 3-6 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Takano (US 4,259,557) as applied to the above claims.

With regard to Claims 3-5, it is noted that "the determination of patentability is based on the product itself, not on its method of production. While Takano is silent as to method of manufacture, it would have been obvious to use any known method to achieve the same end product. If the product in the product-by-process claim is the same as or obvious from a product of the prior art, the claim is unpatentable even though the prior product was made by a different process. MPEP 2113.

With respect to Claim 6, Takano teaches the silver contact connection structure of the above claims. Takano is an embodiment disclosed in Fig. 7 fails to teach the bucking end with a chamfered angle. Takano in another embodiment teaches the fastening section (Fig. 21, #5) has a bucking end (Fig. 21, #4b) on one end thereof formed in a chamfered angle (Fig. 21, #7). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to modify the connection structure of Takano for the purpose of providing a chamfer in the fastening section to hold the silver contact in a fixed position in relationship to the fastening section.

Conclusion

7. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Cooley (US 3,200,226) teaches in Fig. 6 the claimed structure of claim 1. Applicant's admitted prior art, R.O.C. 448454 teaches screw threads in the

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fastening section that have a non-circular helix shape along any horizontal cross section. Broadhurst (US 4,364,173) teaches a method to assembly a silver contact into a fastening section.

.Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Robert J. Hoffberg whose telephone number is (571) 272-2761. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:30 AM - 4:30 PM Mon - Fri.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Lynn D. Feild can be reached on (571) 272-2092. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

RJH *RJH*

Lynn D. Feild
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SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2030